

Message Text

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14

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4592

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, JA

SUBJ: US/ JAPAN TRADE - GOJ CUSTOMS STATISTICS FOR
MAY 1973 SHOW SURPLUS FOR US

REF: A. TOKYO 3354; B. TOKYO 6346

1. AS PREDICTED BY MINFIN AICHI IN HIS MAY 21 PRESS
CONFERENCE (REF B), GOJ CUSTOMS FIGURES FOR MAY 1973
SHOW JAPAN IN DEFICIT TO US ON TRADE. JAPANESE
FIGURES REPORT EXPORTS F. O. B. AND IMPORTS C. I. F.
THIS FIRST TIME SINCE FEB 1971 THAT US HAS SHOWN
TRADE SURPLUS IN JAPANESE CUSTOMS FIGURES.

2. JAPANESE CUSTOMS FIGURES JUST RELEASED SHOW FOL-
LOWING RESULTS FOR JAPAN' S TRADE WITH US IN MAY 1973:
EXPORTS TO US (FOB) \$795,465,000; IMPORTS FROM US

(CIF) \$803,552,000; US SURPLUS \$8,087,000. FIGURES
FOR JAPAN' S TRADE WITH WORLD IN MAY 1973 ARE AS FOLLOWS:
EXPORTS FROM JAPAN (FOB) \$2,817,968,000; IMPORTS INTO
JAPAN (CIF) \$3,218,610,000; JAPAN' S DEFICIT \$400,642,000.

3. ON BASIS THESE FIGURES JAPAN' S EXPORTS TO US GREW ONLY
9.4 PERCENT OVER MAY 1972, WHILE US EXPORTS TO JAPAN
SHOWED 68.1 PERCENT GROWTH OVER MAY 1972. IN EXPORTS
FROM JAPAN TO US ONLY SYNTHETIC TEXTILES, OFFICE EQUIPMENT
AND TAPE RECORDERS SHOWED HIGH RATE OF INCREASE.
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STEEL AND AUTOMOBILE SALES DID NOT CLIMB ABOVE PREVIOUS
LEVELS. IMPORTS FROM US OF FOODSTUFFS AND METAL MATERIALS
TRIPLED AND SOYBEANS AND LUMBER DOUBLED OVER
MAY 1972.
SHOESMITH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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